



NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY
CENTRAL SECURITY SERVICE
FORT GEORGE G. MEADE, MARYLAND 20755-6000

FOIA Case: 74752
21 October 2013

Mr. Jason Smathers
MuckRock News, DEPT MR 6626
PO Box 55819
Boston, MA 02205-5819

Dear Mr. Smathers:

We are in receipt of your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request submitted via the Internet on 8 September 2013, for "All current interagency Memoranda of Understanding (MOU) or Memoranda of Agreement (MOA)." Your request was received in the NSA/CSS FOIA office on 9 September 2013 and has been assigned Case Number 74752.

For purposes of this request and based on the information you provided in your letter, you are considered an "all other" requester. You must pay for search time in excess of 2 hours and duplication in excess of 100 pages. We have not addressed your request for a fee waiver at this time due to the broadness of this request, as discussed below.

Two requirements must be met in order for a FOIA request to be proper: (1) the request must "reasonably" describe the records sought; and (2) it must be made in accordance with published rules stating the time, place, fees (if any), and procedures to be followed. Your request does not satisfy the first requirement because agency employees familiar with the subject matter of this request cannot locate responsive records without an unreasonable amount of effort. The rationale for this rule is that FOIA was not intended to reduce Government agencies to full-time investigators on behalf of requesters.

This letter advises you that the topic of your request is overly broad, unreasonably burdensome, and not specific enough to allow a reasonable search. Searching for documents responsive to a very broad request such as yours would require an elaborate search. In addition, we expect that the search of this magnitude will result in unusually high search costs, which could be passed on to you as an "all other" requester. Furthermore, please

note that DoD Regulation 5400.7-R states that the requester must provide a description of the desired record so that the Government is able to locate the record with a reasonable amount of effort.

We request that you narrow or identify the specific topics or subjects of the MOUs or MOAs that you are seeking. This will then allow a focused search. We will hold your request in abeyance pending further instructions from you redefining your request. If we do not hear from you within 30 days from the date of this letter, we will assume that you are no longer interested in pursuing this request, and we will administratively close your case with no further processing.

Correspondence related to your request should include the case number assigned to your request, which is included in the first paragraph of this letter. Your letter should be addressed to National Security Agency, FOIA Office (DJ4), 9800 Savage Road STE 6248, Ft. George G. Meade, MD 20755-6248 or may be sent by facsimile to 443-479-3612. If sent by fax, it should be marked for the attention of the FOIA office. The telephone number of the FOIA Office is 301-688-6527.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Pamela N. Phillips".

PAMELA N. PHILLIPS
Chief
FOIA/PA Office